

(c) to (e) No, Sir. The minutes of the said meeting do not reflect any such concern shown by the Chinese side over blacklisting of some of its companies.

Safeguards in patent laws

10. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the drug companies have requested Government to ensure that crucial safeguards are introduced while amending the existing patent laws; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) Views of all stakeholders as communicated to Government are duly considered at every level. There is no proposal to further amend the Patents Act, 1970. The existing patent law contains provisions for ensuring availability of patented products at reasonable and affordable prices. These *inter-alia* include provisions for compulsory licence, use of patent for public non-commercial use, dealing with emergent situations, parallel import, acquisition of patent rights by Government, use of patent for research and education and revocation of patent in public interest.

Stagnating Indo-Russian trade

11. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for stagnation of Indo-Russian trade at US \$ 2 billions for more than a decade;

(b) whether any trade working groups consisting of both the countries have been constituted to increase bilateral trade;

(c) if so, the details thereof;